

Claims

We Claim:

1. A method of reducing drag of a fluid, comprising:
 - providing a fluid selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbons, mixtures of hydrocarbons and water, and mixtures of hydrocarbons, water and gas; and
 - adding to the fluid an amount of an additive effective to reduce the drag of the fluid, where the additive is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, alkoxylated derivatives of fatty acids, organic and inorganic salts of fatty acids and alkoxylated derivatives thereof, and esters of fatty acids and alkoxylated derivatives thereof, and mixtures thereof.
2. The method of claim 1 where the additive averages from about 4 to about 60 carbon atoms.
3. The method of claim 1 where the additive is selected from the group consisting of tall oil derived dimer acid, tall oil derived trimer acid, and mixtures thereof.
4. The method of claim 1 where the amount of additive based on the total amount of fluid ranges from about 100 to 1000 ppm.
5. The method of claim 1 further comprising adding more than one additive.
6. A method of reducing drag of a fluid, comprising:
 - providing a fluid selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbons, mixtures of hydrocarbons and water, and mixtures of hydrocarbons, water and gas; and

5 adding to the fluid from about 100 to 1000 ppm of an additive based on the
 6 total amount of fluid, where the additive is selected from the group
 7 consisting of fatty acids, alkoxylated derivatives of fatty acids, organic
 8 and inorganic salts of fatty acids and alkoxylated derivatives thereof,
 9 and esters of fatty acids and alkoxylated derivatives thereof and
 10 mixtures thereof, and where the additive averages from about 4 to
 11 about 60 carbon atoms.

7. The method of claim 6 where the additive is selected from the group consisting of tall oil derived dimer acid, tall oil derived trimer acid, and mixtures thereof.

8. The method of claim 6 further comprising adding more than one additive.

1 9. A reduced drag fluid, comprising:
 2 a fluid selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbons, mixtures of
 3 hydrocarbons and water, and mixtures of hydrocarbons, water and
 4 gas; and
 5 an amount of an additive effective to reduce the drag of the fluid, where the
 6 additive is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids,
 7 alkoxylated derivatives of fatty acids, organic and inorganic salts of
 8 fatty acids and alkoxylated derivatives thereof, and esters of fatty
 9 acids and alkoxylated derivatives thereof, and mixtures thereof.

10. The reduced drag fluid of claim 9 where the additive averages from about 4 to about 60 carbon atoms.

11. The reduced drag fluid of claim 9 where the additive is selected from the group consisting of tall oil derived dimer acid, tall oil derived trimer acid, and mixtures thereof.

12. The reduced drag fluid of claim 9 where the amount of additive based on the total amount of fluid ranges from about 100 to 1000 ppm.

13. The reduced drag fluid of claim 9 further comprising more than one additive.

14. A reduced drag fluid, comprising:

a fluid selected from the group consisting of hydrocarbons, mixtures of hydrocarbons and water, and mixtures of hydrocarbons, water and gas; and
from about 100 to 1000 ppm of an additive based on the total amount of fluid, where the additive is selected from the group consisting of fatty acids, alkoxylated derivatives of fatty acids, organic and inorganic salts of fatty acids and alkoxylated derivatives thereof, and esters of fatty acids and alkoxylated derivatives thereof and mixtures thereof, and where the additive averages from about 4 to about 60 carbon atoms.

15. The reduced drag fluid of claim 14 where the additive is selected from the group consisting of tall oil derived dimer acid, tall oil derived trimer acid, and mixtures thereof.

16. The reduced drag fluid of claim 14 further comprising more than one additive.